

## ‘Angels’ give cheer to CAFB children

**Airman Cecilia Rodriguez**  
Public affairs

The Columbus AFB Angel Tree program begins today to bring gifts to base children this holiday season.

The program is sponsored by the first sergeants, family support center, and the Top Three.

Concerned about the morale and welfare of the Columbus AFB troops, former first sergeant Paul McClain began the program here two years ago.

“The Angel Tree program is something I had seen before at other Air Force bases,” Mr. McClain said. “There were plenty of programs for kids from downtown, but nothing for our kids here on base.

“We have families who are financially hurting at this time of year, and we want to help them out at Christmas time, especially the children.”

Supervisors are responsible for identifying troops with difficult financial situations whose children might appreciate an extra gift this Christmas.

The first sergeants collect this information, and about 100 ornaments with children’s ages, genders, special requests and clothing sizes are then placed on the Angel Trees.

Angel Trees can be found in the lobbies of the exchange, family support center, chapel and DynCorp Building 640, located behind the BLAZE hangar.

“Anyone who would like to make Christmas morning a little more special for the children of our BLAZE team members can pick up an Angel Tree ornament and purchase a gift, preferably worth no more than \$20,” said Master Sgt. Kevin Hawks, 14th Security Forces Squadron first sergeant. “Those who choose to do so are asked to wrap the gifts with the ornaments securely attached and bring them to the family support center by 4 p.m. Thursday.”

First sergeants will sort and deliver the gifts to the families Dec. 19.

“Children have expectations on Christmas morning, and after paying the bills, some parents are unable to provide as much as they would like for their children,” Sergeant Hawks said.

“The Angel Tree program helps relieve some of the stress of our troops and helps them provide a very happy Christmas morning for their children,” he added.

For more information, call Sergeant Hawks at Ext. 7125.



Airman Alexis Lloyd

**Capt. Todd Tice, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, secures the sign by a crushed vehicle near the main gate. The sign scene serves as a reminder to have a designated driver. Mandatory safety briefings are Wednesday. See Page 3.**

## Drinking, driving means pain, tragedy

**Airman Alexis Lloyd**  
Public affairs

A crushed vehicle was placed at the front gate Tuesday with a sign reading, “You Drink, You Drive — You Lose.”

“The display is in honor of National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month and to raise awareness during the holidays of what can happen if people decide to drive impaired,” said Capt. Todd Tice, 14th Medical Operations Squadron clinical psychologist.

The legal limit for alcohol content is .08.

Although a person’s size, how much food is in the stomach and how often a person drinks are influ-

ential factors, even one drink can put someone over the legal limit, said Staff Sgt. Teresa Granade, 14th Security Forces Squadron.

The age groups most affected by impaired driving are from 18 to 30, but this still does not exclude all other age groups.

“If you’re in that age range and are going to die this month, it will most likely be because of a drunk-driving incident,” Captain Tice said.

The National Commission Against Drunk Driving is the successor to the Presidential Commission on Drunk Driving appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1982. The mission of NCADD is to continue the efforts of the Presidential Commission to

reduce impaired driving and its tragic consequences by uniting a broadly based coalition of public and private sector organizations and other concerned individuals who share this common purpose.

“Since initiatives like this have begun, alcohol-related deaths have decreased by 34 percent,” Captain Tice said. “The car at the front gate is a very graphic reminder of the consequences of driving impaired.”

The Blaze 6 is currently starting up an Airmen Against Drunk Driving program.

The purpose of the AADD program is to give people an alternative to drunk driving.

See DRIVING, Page 2

## Housing stresses pet ownership responsibilities

**Airman 1st Class Boto Best**  
Public affairs

The Columbus AFB housing office is encouraging all pet owners on and off base to ensure that their pets are properly cared for and kept under control as the holidays approach.

“The base housing staff routinely receives complaints indicating that housing residents fail to keep their dogs on leashes, clean up after their pets and prevent their pets from barking at night,” said Cynthia Fowlkes, housing management supervisor.

As pet owners, military members are reminded that they are responsible for the well being of their pets.

This includes making sure pets receive proper vaccinations, food, water and training. This also entails making sure pets do not become a nuisance to the base community.

“It’s important to keep your pets under control, primarily for the safety of the animal,” said Rachel Hill, Capitol Village resident. “If your pet runs loose, it could get hit by a car.”

All pet owners living in base family housing must obey the following rules:

❑ No more than three 4-legged pets per household. All pets must be registered with the vet clinic, 434-2281.

❑ Keep all pets on a leash when outside the home or fenced yard. Cats are not allowed to roam the neighborhood.

❑ Owners must ensure cleanliness of pets’ areas to control and prevent the spread of lice and fleas. Pick up pet droppings daily from yards and clean up immediately after pets while taking walks.

❑ Dogs are not permitted on the base sports fields or any other base activity area not specifically designated for pets, such as SAC Lake.

❑ Outdoor dogs must have access to food, water and shelter from weather. Leashes must be long enough to allow for exercise.

❑ Dogs will not be tied or chained in front of the house, under the carport, at the side of the unit or anywhere that will impede access to the home. The postal service will not deliver to a residence if a dog poses a threat. Trash collectors will not pick up trash if a dog is anywhere in the area.

❑ Electric, including ‘invisible’ pet control fences, are not authorized for use in family housing. Chain link fences can be four feet high. See the housing office for required approval form.

❑ Report any stray animals to security forces immediately.

The housing office encourages residents to resolve issues at the lowest level possible.

“If a neighbor comes to you with a complaint about your pet, keep an open



Airman 1st Class Boto Best

**Marie Pallatt, Capitol Housing resident, walks her next-door neighbor’s dog, Abby.**

mind,” Ms. Fowlkes said. “The problem is bothering them if they took the time to let you know about it.”

If a problem continues and cannot be resolved between military members in the neighborhood, then security forces, first sergeants and commanders will become involved.

Residents are reminded that owning a pet makes them totally responsible, and

that owning a pet is a privilege, not a right, Ms. Fowlkes said. People who violate these rules could lose the privilege of owning pets of living in base housing as deemed necessary by the 14th Mission Support Group commander.

For more information, call Ext. 7370. *(Editor’s note: This article is in response to numerous Straight Talk requests for action on pet ownership.)*

## DRIVING (Continued from Page 1)

“We don’t want to just preach drinking responsibly,” said Staff Sgt. Antheny Wilson, life skills support center NCOIC. “Everyone should have a plan before they start drinking. Make sure you pick a responsible [designated driver], someone you can trust not to have even one drink while you’re out.”

Everyone should always have a back-up plan just in case. Captain Tice advised that people should always carry an extra \$20 or \$30 in case they get separated from their

group and are stranded or cannot drive home themselves.

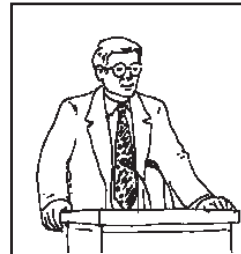
According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, impaired driving is one of the most often committed crimes, randomly killing someone in America every 30 minutes and 40 people a day. That means anyone is just as likely to be innocent victims.

Local law enforcement agencies across the United States will be out in full force Dec. 19 to Jan. 4 as part of the “You Drink and Drive — You Lose” national crackdown to

keep citizens safe from impaired drivers, according to the NHTSA.

“Military members also need to remember there is a lot more at stake for drinking and driving than others,” Captain Tice said. “You’re not just losing a license; you’re losing your career.”

For more information about National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, visit [www.ncadd.com](http://www.ncadd.com) or [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov).



**Speakers are needed for the Columbus AFB Speaker’s Bureau. Anyone interested in speaking about the Air Force or their career field at civic clubs, career fairs, science fairs, elementary schools or high schools in the Golden Triangle area can come to the public affairs office and fill out an application. Call Ext. 7068.**



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Flu shots

The immunization clinic has run out of the flu vaccine for ages 3 and under. The clinic still has vaccines for ages 4 and up. For more information, call Ext. 2187.

### Open house

The life skills support center has an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. today. The office is located in the clinic on the second floor.

### HAWC closure

The health and wellness center closes today at 3:45 p.m. for commander’s call. For more information, call Ext. 2477.

### Safety briefings

Mandatory safety briefings are at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Thursday at the theater. All Columbus AFB military and Civilian personnel must attend one of the briefings. Spouses may also attend, but bringing children is not advised. The guest speaker is former law enforcement officer Bill Cain. For more information, call Ext. 2519.

### National holiday

President George W. Bush declared the day after Christmas, Dec. 26, a national holiday for all government employees. Traditionally when Christmas falls on a Thursday, presidents usually declare the following day a holiday.

# Happy Fund volunteers bring holiday spirit to Columbus children, elderly

**Airman Cecilia Rodriguez**  
Public affairs

Columbus AFB volunteers gathered at the Columbus Club Wednesday to donate their time to the less fortunate of the community this holiday season.

The morning began at 7 a.m. when volunteers arrived at the base exchange and commissary and left with arms full of presents and food.

“The Happy Fund wanted to help the surrounding Columbus area as well as give back to the supportive Air Force community,” said Julie Keck, Happy Fund volunteer coordinator. “That is why the children’s presents and the food for the fruit baskets were purchased here on base.

“A jug for donations to the Happy Fund was set up at the shoppette again this year,” she said. “Last year, the fund received \$40 from the donations raised at the shoppette. But this year, the donations totaled three times as much money.”

The program began in 1952 when its namesake George “Happy” Irby started saving his tips and donations from friends to help underprivileged youth stay in school by providing school supplies, clothing and other necessities.

For more than 50 years now, the Happy Fund has provided Christmas gifts for



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

**Emily Segura, 8, gathers presents during the Wednesday’s Happy Fund gift wrapping.**

many needy children and fruit baskets for elderly residents around the Columbus area.

This year’s fund donated gifts to 425 disadvantaged youth and 100 fruit baskets to elderly people who might have otherwise been forgotten.

“We don’t care whether they’re rich or poor, old or young,” said Mr. Irby “If they need it, we’ll help them in any way we can. We’re going to keep on giving for as long as the money lasts.”

For more information about the Happy Fund, call Ms. Keck at 434-5165.

# 14 general, subject paper CLEP tests return April 2004

**Airman 1st Class Boto Best**  
Public affairs

All hard-copy College Level Examination Program tests have been withdrawn and converted to electronic format, except for 14 general and subject exams.

These will return to testing centers in hard-copy format in April 2004.

“Hard-copy tests are the most popular, they have the best success rate and they meet a majority of educational requirements of most degree programs that people use CLEP for,” said Len Lipp, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support exam programs manager.

The paper exams are also coming back because the military has areas such as ships at sea and other remote locations where it’s difficult to administer computer-based testing, Mr. Lipp said.

Since July 2001, more than 1,300 campus test centers have offered electronic CLEP tests.

The re-introduced paper exams will be based on computer versions of CLEP exams being given at national

test centers on college and university campuses.

Meanwhile, Columbus AFB students wanting to take paper tests that have been withdrawn can currently only take them in electronic format at Mississippi State University, 35 miles away. Military students’ units must pay \$20 in test administration fees and \$50 for the test itself.

In some cases, substitute tests are available where Dantes subject exams can satisfy general CLEP test requirements.

In other cases, arrangements can be made to wait for the paper-based tests to return in 2004. A list of substitute exams is available at the education center.

“We recommend that students taking CLEP exams focus on preparation and report to the education center for detailed counseling and guidance,” said Luther Turner, Columbus AFB Education Services flight chief. “They should work closely with the education center staff in working out testing issues, as trips to MSU are not reimbursed.”

CLEP tests offer servicemembers a chance to earn up

to 30 semester hours’ credit toward a bachelor’s degree. Colleges and universities nationwide accept the exams, which cover subjects taught to most college freshman and sophomores.

“Of the three credit-by-exams programs recognized by colleges, CLEP is by far the most popular among the military,” Mr. Lipp said.

In the near future, CLEP tests might become even more popular and convenient for servicemembers, he said.

Dantes and the College Board, the organization which provides college information, testing and financial aid sources, plan to introduce a new web-based CLEP program, hopefully by 2006, Mr. Lipp said. The program will allow servicemembers to take CLEP tests online at military education centers.

For more information about CLEP tests and the nearest national testing center, visit [www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes\\_web/examinations/CLEP.htm](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/examinations/CLEP.htm), [www.collegeboard.com/clep](http://www.collegeboard.com/clep), or call the education center at Ext. 2563.

# Look in the mirror daily, ask ‘How’s my reflection?’

**Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney Jr.**  
82nd Training Wing commander

**SHEPPARD AFB, Texas** — Think for a moment. Is it possible for two people to look at the same thing and each see something different? I would argue the answer is yes.

It is possible for two people to observe the same subject yet see two different items or events. Ask anyone in security forces about taking police reports from eyewitnesses, and you’ll quickly understand that no two observers agree on every detail.

I can think of countless times I’ve sat in meetings with staff members and thought

we all saw the same presentation, yet later we had widely different ideas of the information conveyed.

Each morning as you look at yourself in the mirror, what is it you see? Do you see someone who is easily approachable, a mentor, a leader, a member of the most respected profession and someone “fit to fight?”

Did you ever think that there may be two different “reflections” of you? Is that what your co-workers, students, supervisors or family would describe?

I know this phenomenon firsthand. I would describe myself as a very organized, neat and detail-oriented person. My wife and administrative staff probably have a far

different view of my habits.

Understandably, my self-image and reality are different. I need to work on it.

First impressions can last a long time, but the day-to-day attitude we carry with us has as much to do with how we are regarded as that first handshake.

At every moment of the day, people are watching the men and women of our Air Force. They expect a certain level of professionalism, honor, integrity and excellence.

Students and people new to our Air Force are also forming impressions. They are learning what we are all about, our culture and our heritage from the Air Force

members they meet each day. These early values will be the foundation of their careers. Let’s make sure we’re giving them the right ideas about what it means to be an airman, soldier, sailor or Marine.

Self-reflection is an ongoing process. That’s what “excellence in all we do” is really about – continuous improvement.

This holiday season, take a moment while you reminisce on the past or dream of the future to focus on the present-day you. Try to make the “ghost of Christmas present” a warm and inviting mentor to work with. Only you can make what you think you see in yourself and what others observe one and the same.

## STRAIGHT TALK LINE

*The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.*

*The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.*

*Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil). Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.*

### Construction trucks causing chipped, broken windshields

**Question:** I was driving through the back gate last week when some rocks and debris were kicked up from a construction truck leaving the base and something hit my windshield. I now have a rock chip that is starting to crack my windshield. I would like to know if the base or this construction company is going to do anything about this problem.

**Answer:** We have been working hard with the local authorities to remedy the entire Highway 373 situation. First, we have received Mississippi’s Department of Transportation’s commitment to resurface Highway 373, which will alleviate the problem of trucks dropping debris because of the poor conditions of the road. Second, I have personally contacted county officials, the county sheriff and local gravel companies regarding enforcement of Mississippi trucking laws.

If your car is damaged off base, get as much information about the truck as possible (description of vehicle, license plate number, date, time and location of event). Report the incident immediately to the trucking company and file a

legal affidavit with the Lowndes County Sheriff regarding the incident. In most cases, if the specific truck can be identified, the trucking company is cooperative with meeting its responsibility.

If you do not see the specific truck responsible for your damage, you will need to contact your insurance company to cover your loss.

If you are unable to contact the company, you may pass the information to our law enforcement desk at x7128. Our Security Forces squadron will attempt to track down the vehicle and we will keep a record to use in discussions with local officials. If your car is damaged on base, please take down as much information as possible regarding the incident and contact the security police.

They will pass on their report to the base legal office, who will research the incident and contact you concerning the possibility of compensation for damages. Thanks for checking into this problem ... it affects all of us and we will keep working it until the situation improves.

*Col. Steve Schmidt*  
14th Flying Training Wing commander

## SILVER WINGS

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434-7069, or e-mailed to [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil) by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

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### Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7370
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2546
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026



# CAFB T-37s fly over Kitty Hawk for Centennial of Flight

Wilbur (1867-1912) and Orville Wright (1871-1948), printers and bicycle builders from Dayton, Ohio, took their first serious step toward the invention of the airplane in 1899 but didn't get there until 1903. They were superb, self-trained engineers who developed an extraordinarily successful research strategy, enabling them to overcome one set of challenging problems after another, the full extent of which previous experimenters had not even suspected.

The first four sustained, powered flights controlled by a pilot were made by the Wright brothers near Kitty Hawk, N.C., on the morning of Dec. 17, 1903.

The invention of the airplane was a fundamental turning point in history. It redefined the way in which the U.S. fought its wars, revolutionized travel and commerce, fueled the process of technological change, and helped to shape a world in which the very survival of a nation would depend on its scientific and technical prowess.

Beyond all of that, flight remains one of the most stunning and magnificent human achievements.

Eight pilots from Columbus AFB will

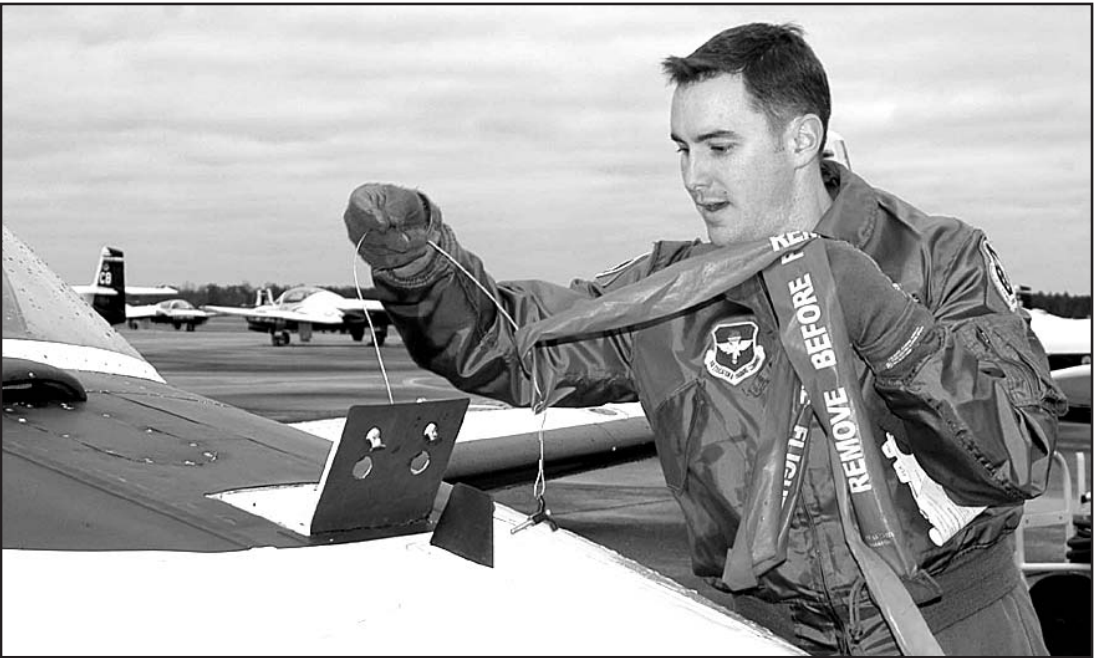
participate in a T-37 flyby during the First Flight Centennial Celebration Wednesday at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

Maj. Phil Stoll, Capt. Jay Hanson, Jeff Phillips, Marc Vincequere, 1Lts. Jason Attaway, Danny Cannon, Brian Congdon and Doug Kabel of the 41st Flying Training Squadron were chosen to take part in the event based on their accomplishments within the squadron.

"It's an honor to be flying over the exact spot the Wright brothers flew over when they completed their first successful powered flight exactly 100 years ago," Captain Hanson said.

The officers also feel privileged to be representing much more than the T-37 aircraft and its pilots.

"The general public is going to be taking a look at our military during this event," Captain Vincequere said. "We feel lucky to be a part of this celebration



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez  
**Capt. Jeff Phillips, 41st Flying Training Squadron, completes a preflight inspection. Captain Phillips is one of eight pilots flying over the Centennial of Flight Celebration Wednesday.**

— to showcase not only aviation but the Air Force as well."

For millennia, the notion of taking to the sky was regarded as the very definition of the impossible. "If God had intended for human beings to fly," it was

said, "he would have given us wings." Instead, we built wings for ourselves, and forever expanded our vision of the possible. The centennial of that event is surely worth commemorating. *(Courtesy of www.centennialofflight.gov)*

## AT THE CHAPEL

### Catholic

#### Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass  
**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — Mass

### Protestant

#### Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship  
**Tuesday**  
Noon — Lunch and Bible study  
**Wednesday**  
5:30 p.m. — Dinner and Bible study

For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

## AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the theater.

### Friday

"Scary Movie 3" (PG-13, pervasive crude and sexual humor, language, drug references, 90 min.)  
Starring: Anne Ferlis and Charlie Sheen.

### Saturday

"Brother Bear" (G, general audience, 85 min.)  
Animated.

### Dec. 19

"Elf" (PG, some mild rude humor and language, 99 min.)  
Starring: James Caan and Will Ferrell.

## CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

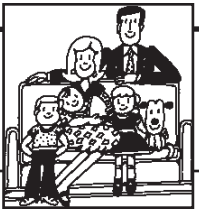
Call public affairs for more information at Ext. 7068.

### Weekdays

**9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.**  
*Air Force Television News*

**Monday through Dec. 12**  
**9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**  
*College Level Examination Program Tapes:*  
Mathematics

## FAMILY SUPPORT



**Computer programs:** Self-paced computer study programs in Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher, FrontPage and PhotoDraw are available at the family support center. For more information, call Ext. 2839.

**Free gifts:** The family support center is giving away presents for military members and retirees beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday.

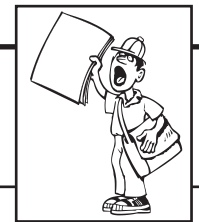
The Veterans of Foreign Wars donated the gifts. For more information, call Ext. 2790.

**Executive seminar:** The Executive Transition Assistance Program Seminar is from Jan. 27 to Jan. 30 at Lackland AFB, Texas.

The seminar is for people who hold advanced degrees and must be in senior leadership positions. To learn how to apply, call Ext. 2790.

**Deployment briefs:** Mandatory deployment or remote tour briefs are at 9 a.m. daily. To schedule an appointment, call 434-2794.

## BASE NOTES



**Chapel events:** The base chapel sponsors a variety of activities this holiday season.

Catholic events include a children's Christmas pageant, Mass and a social at 8 p.m. Dec. 24, Christmas day Mass at 10 a.m. Dec. 25 and New Year's Eve Mass at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 31.

Protestant events include a children's Christmas program at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, caroling in base housing at 6 p.m. Wednesday and a candlelit service with communion at 5 p.m. Dec. 24.

Jewish events include Shabbat at Temple B'Nai Israel at 6 p.m. today downtown and Hanukkah from Dec. 20 to Dec. 27. For more information, call Ext. 2500.

**Tax program:** Volunteers are needed to assist in the Volunteer Income Tax



Airman 1st Class Boto Best

## Little angel

**Santa holds sleeping Alexzander Belyea, 2 months, at the chapel annex after the Christmas tree lighting ceremony Dec. 5. People gathered at the annex for refreshments and to visit Santa.**

Assistance Center in January.

The legal office provides volunteers with all the tax and computer training needed to work.

The tax center saved people more than \$100,000 in tax preparation fees last year.

Training begins Monday and lasts until Dec. 19. To volunteer, call Ext. 7030.

**Scout information:** The Girl Scouts' will travel around base caroling and passing out fruit baskets to families Dec. 15. For more information, call Latoya Marble at Ext. 2504.

The Boy Scouts Troop Court of Honor takes place at 7 p.m. Monday at the family support center. Scouts need to arrive at 6 p.m.

For more information, call Greg Johnson at 343-5362.

**Commercial travel:** The commercial travel office is closed Dec. 24 to Dec. 26, Dec. 31, and Jan. 1 to Jan. 2.

If a person is traveling between Dec. 31 and Jan. 5, tickets must be picked up prior to 3 p.m. Dec. 30.

For more information, call Ext. 2669.

**Thrift shop:** The thrift shop's new hours are 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays.

Consignments are accepted one hour before closing.

The thrift shop is closed from Dec. 22 to Jan. 4. It reopens Jan. 6. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call 434-2954.

**LEAD:** The Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development program deadline is Jan. 31. The program delegates commanders the authority to nominate exceptional airmen with less than six years of service for an appointment to the Air Force Academy.

The Academy has 50 slots for the Academy Prep School. To learn more about how to put a package together, call Ext. 2563.

**OSC social:** The Columbus Officers' Spouses Club's next social is at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Columbus Club. The menu is a Pacific buffet, and cost is \$10 per person.

Club members receive a \$2 discount. New members are welcome.

Deadline to reserve is by noon Jan. 6. For reservations or more information, call 434-8723 or email airtex60@yahoo.com.

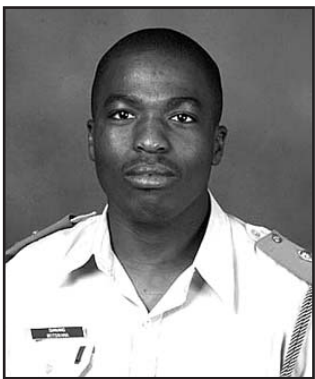
**OSC scholarships:** The Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors and continuing education students.

Each applicant must be a dependent of either an active duty, retired, missing in action, active-duty reservist or deceased military member associated with Columbus AFB.

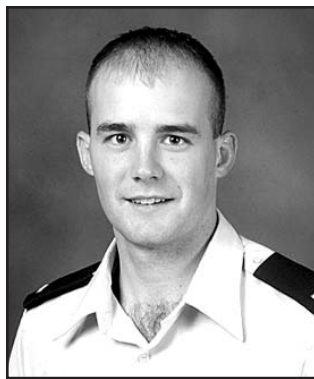
Applications are available at the education center, family support center or high school guidance offices.

Deadline to enter is Feb. 6. For more information, call 240-1519.

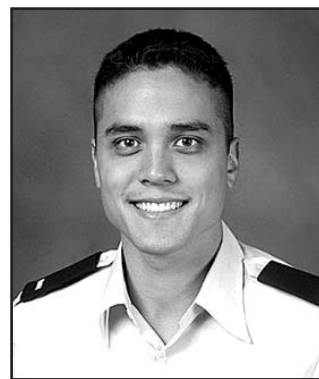




**1st Lt. Ompatile Sianang**  
Serowe, Botswana  
TBD, Botswana



**2nd Lt. Austin Aggson**  
Concordia, Kan. (AFRC)  
KC-135R, McConnell AFB, Kan.



**2nd Lt. Tony Aponte**  
Lorain, Ohio  
KC-135, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

# SUPT Class 04-03 earns silver wings

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-03 graduated at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

Twenty-nine officers prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Harold Cross, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, and serves in the capacity of commander of Mississippi Air National Guard. He is responsible to the Adjutant General for directing Air National Guard operations and establishing policy to ensure mission readiness of an air refueling wing, an airlift wing, a combat communications squadron and a combat readiness training center, which includes air control and civil engineering squadrons. The general is also responsible for coordination, implementation and compliance with Air Force and National Guard Bureau policies within the state.

Students received their silver pilot's wings at today's ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lts. Austin Aggson, T-1, and Justin Hicks, T-38, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lts. Jason Hansberger, T-1, and Daniel Robertson, T-38. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Lieutenants Aggson and Hicks were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 Tweet. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet.

T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

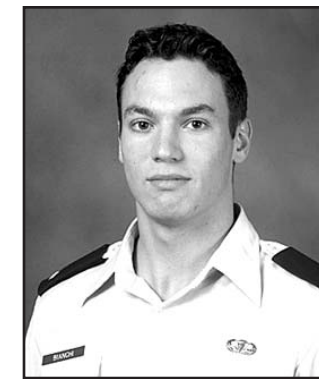
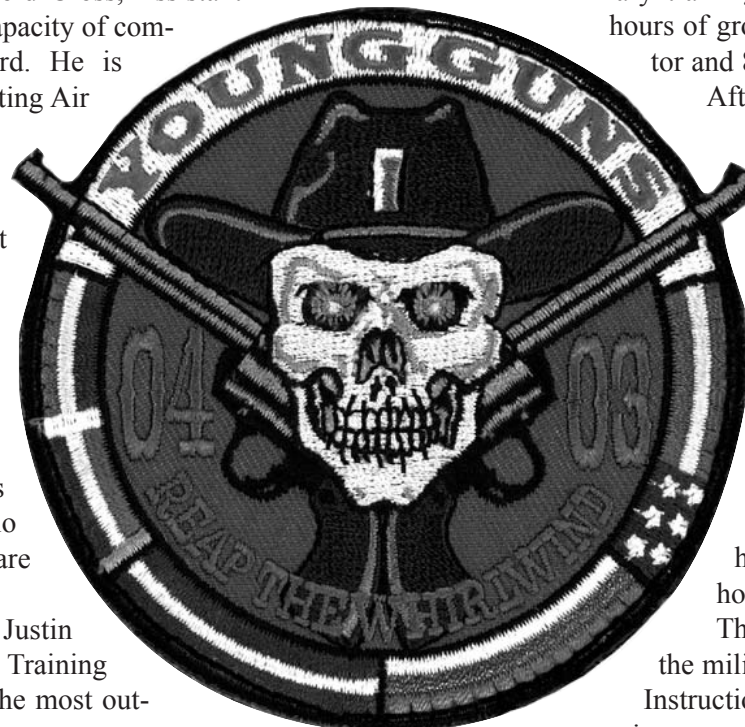
The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots.

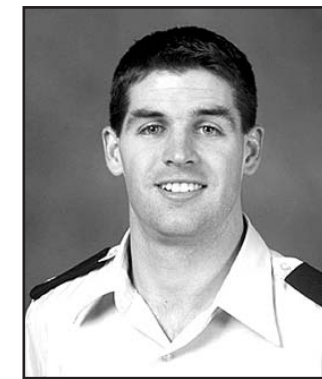
*(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are Mossy Oak and Quest Marketing.)*



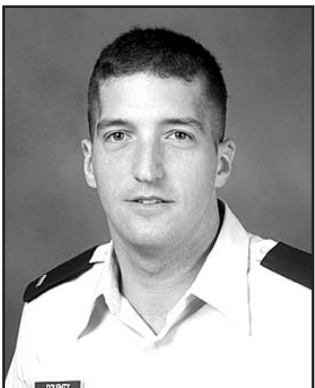
**2nd Lt. Jason Bianchi**  
Chicago Heights, Ill.  
T-38, Columbus AFB, Miss.



**2nd Lt. Brooke Carter**  
Hilo, Hawaii  
T-37, Columbus AFB, Miss.



**2nd Lt. David Dinan III**  
McMurray, Pa.  
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



**2nd Lt. Scott Doughty**  
Jay, Maine (ANG)  
F-16, Burlington ANG Base, Vt.



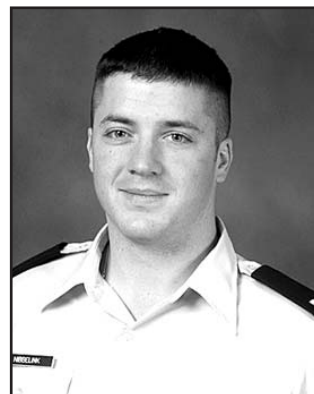
**2nd Lt. Stephen Freedman**  
Bethel, Del.  
C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.



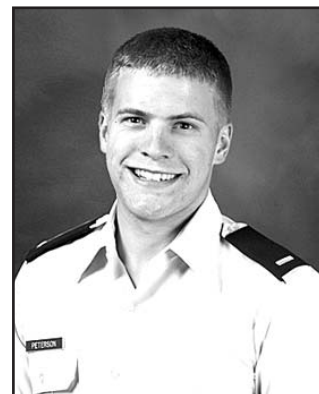
**2nd Lt. Thomas Griffin**  
Getzville, N.Y. (ANG)  
KC-135R, Niagara Falls, N.Y.



**2nd Lt. Thomas Klusek Jr.**  
Kenmore, N.Y.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



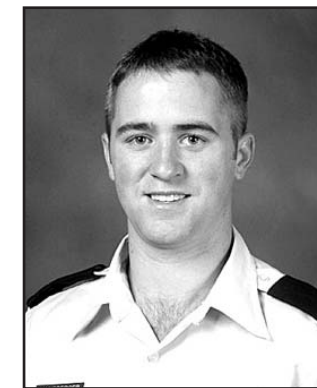
**2nd Lt. Daniel Nibbelink**  
Lenexa, Kan.  
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



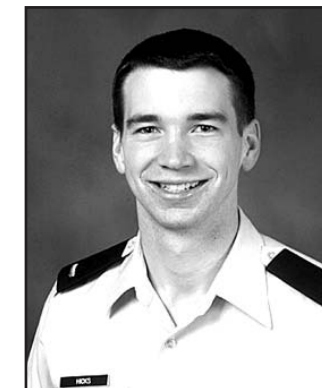
**2nd Lt. Eric Peterson**  
Dekalb, Ill.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Courtney Hamrick**  
Lawrenceville, Ga.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Jason Hansberger**  
Hastings, Minn.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Justin Hicks**  
Williamsburg, Va.  
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



**2nd Lt. Thomas Phillips Jr.**  
North Canton, Ohio  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



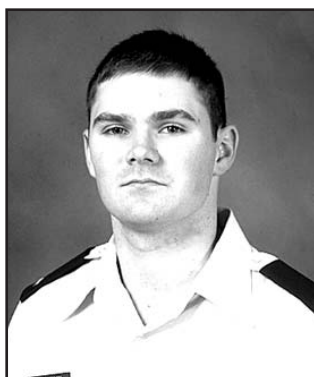
**2nd Lt. Joshua Pugliese**  
Belleville, Ill.  
C-21, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio



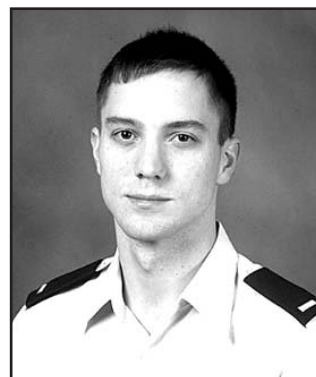
**2nd Lt. Erin Reynolds**  
Allen, Texas  
F-15C, TBD



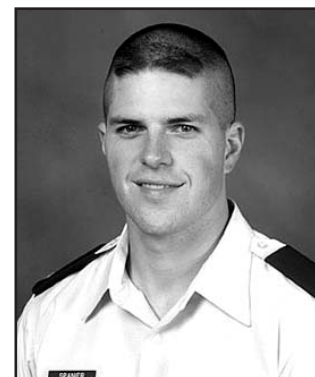
**2nd Lt. Michael Richard**  
Beverly, Mass.  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



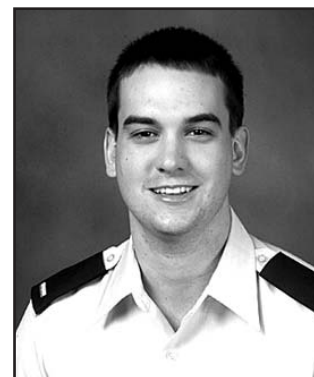
**2nd Lt. Daniel Robertson**  
Woodville, Miss.  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



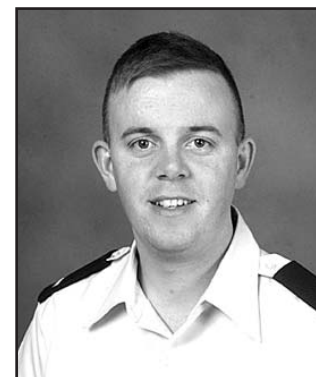
**2nd Lt. Eric Sobecki**  
Michigan City, Ind.  
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



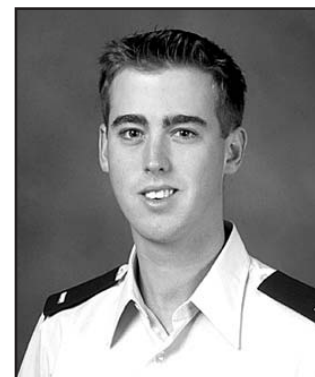
**2nd Lt. Seth Spanier**  
Littleton, Colo.  
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



**2nd Lt. Bryan Starcher**  
Shermansdale, Pa.  
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Jamey Stephenson**  
Valley City, N.D. (ANG)  
TBD, Fargo, N.D.



**2nd Lt. Nathaniel Sunderland**  
Bloomington, Ill. (ANG)  
F-16, Springfield Capital Airport, Ill.



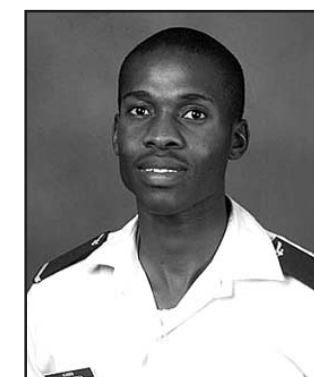
**2nd Lt. Chrissy Thompson**  
Roswell, Ga.  
KC-135, MacDill AFB, Fla.



**2nd Lt. Robert Ulander**  
Whitefish Bay, Wis. (ANG)  
KC-135R, Gen. Mitchell Int., Wis.



**2nd Lt. Monique Van't Wout**  
Peachtree City, Ga.  
C-21, Andrews AFB, Md.



**2nd Lt. Jabu Kabini**  
Waterval "B" Mpumalanga  
Province, South Africa, TBD



# Services offers programs for base families

**Child care available:** The child development center has daily drop-in space available. There are spaces available for all-day or part-time care in the 3- to 5-year old room, the 2-year-old room and the 6 weeks to 6 months room.

Care is also available for parties if reserved in advance. If an office is having a party and child care is needed, please have a point of contact call to reserve child care five days in advance.

Call Ext. 2479.

**Give parents a break and parents day out:** The child development center offers this program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 20. Cost is \$3 per hour and a \$5 nonrefundable is required when registering. Deadline to register is Wednesday. Call Ext. 2479.

**Catfish buffet:** The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat catfish buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays. Cost is \$5.95 for members and \$7.95 for nonmembers.

Customers may still order off the a la carte menu. Call Ext. 2490.

**Play NTN games:** The enlisted lounge now offers free NTN games for members and \$2 for two hours for nonmembers.

It's karaoke night with customers providing the entertainment starting at 9 p.m. Call Ext. 2489.

**Football Frenzy:** Enter to win in the club's Football Frenzy program. The enlisted lounge is open Mondays from 6 to 10 p.m.

The prizes include tickets to the Super Bowl and a Pro Bowl game. For details, stop by the enlisted lounge.

**Breakfast and pictures with Santa:** The youth center offers this program from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday. Cost is \$3 for breakfast and \$2 for a picture.

Pet pictures are also available, but reservations must be made. Call Ext. 2504.

**Silver Star Casino trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip Dec. 19. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation and \$15 in coins.

Call Ext. 7861 for reservations.

**Youth holiday day camp:** The youth center offers a holiday day camp for school-age children during the Christmas break. Fees are based on family income.

Call Ext. 2504.

**Golf pro shop holiday sale:** The Whispering Pines Golf Course pro shop offers a holiday sale where customers select discounts from a holiday tree after they have selected their merchandise. Discounts range from 5- to 50-percent. Call Ext. 7932.

**Youth instructional classes:** The youth center offers the following instructional classes: karate, voice lessons, tumbling tots, guitar lessons, tennis lessons, dance and sign language. Call Ext. 2504.



Pam Wickham

## Is that Rudolph?

**Joan Havens, skills development center director, adjusts the antlers of the wooden deer outside of the center. The pair sells for \$40. For more information, call Ext. 7836.**

**Mardi Gras trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip from Feb. 14 to Feb. 16 to New Orleans. Cost is \$165 per person and includes transportation and two nights lodging at the Holiday Inn. A deposit of \$50 is required when registering.

Call Ext. 7861.

**Ski the Smoky Mountains:** Register by Jan. 9 at the information, ticket and travel office for this trip from Jan. 17 to Jan. 19 to Gatlinburg, Tenn. Cost is \$199 and includes transportation, two night's lodging, lift tickets and rentals. If rentals are not required, cost is \$170 per person or \$125 for nonskiers. A deposit of \$50 is required upon registering.

Call Ext. 7861.

**Free squadron bowling parties:** The bowling center offers two free hours of bowling for an official squadron function anytime between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Shoe rental is 75 cents per person, if needed.

There is no limit as to how many times a squadron takes advantage of this free offer, but it must be reserved

in advance with the bowling center staff. Call Ext. 2426.

**Quick shot bingo:** The bowling center offers quick shot bingo anytime the bowling center is open. Cash prizes. Cards are \$1 each. Call Ext. 2426.

**Birthday parties:** The Strike Zone Lanes offers three different birthday party packages ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$4.75 per person. Stop by to pick up a brochure on what is offered with each package.

Call Ext. 2426.

**“Happy” Burger:** Stop by the Columbus Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays and take advantage of the best lunch deal on the base. Order a Happy Burger, fries and a drink for only \$3.95 for members. Nonmembers pay \$5.95. An a la carte menu is also available along with a take-out service.

Call Ext. 2489.

**Breakfast bagels:** The bowling center added bagels to their menu. Cost is 75 cents each.

Call Ext. 2426.

**Holiday rides:** Christmas carriage rides through the historic Southern district of Columbus are offered Dec. 19 to Dec. 21.

Rides are stationed at the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center beginning at 5 p.m. Dec. 19, and 10 a.m. Dec. 20 and Dec. 21. Tickets are \$15 per couple and children under 12 are free. No advanced tickets are sold. For more information, call 329-3533.

**Scout trees:** Boy Scout Troop 3 is selling Christmas trees in the Kroger parking lot on Highway 45 North. The hours are from 4 to 9 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays.

**Trees of Christmas:** The Columbus Public Library displays “Trees of Christmas” until Dec. 31. The handmade decorations represent literary and musical

themes.

Exhibits from elementary students, private collections, and garden and community clubs depicting the holiday season are on display.

The displays are free to the public. The library is located at 314 7th Street North. For more information, call 329-5300.

**Christmas shoes:** A play by Wesley United Methodist Church, “Christmas Shoes,” is at 6:30 p.m. Sunday in the Christian life center. Admission for the hour-long show is free. For more information, call 328-8644.

**Christmas festival:** The Columbus Christmas Festival is open and free to the public Sunday.

The event features three-fully staged outdoor drama scenes, two outdoor musical programs each night and a hospitality station. There will also be free gift wrap-

ping and a toy store for needy families.

The event is at First Baptist Church of Columbus at 202 7th Street North.

For more information, call 328-3915.

**Kids extravaganza:** The Christmas Kids Extravaganza starring young Columbus artists is at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Rent Auditorium on the Mississippi University of Women's campus.

Admission is \$5 per person, and children under 12 years old are free.

For more information about the extravaganza, call 328-2787.

**Children's theatre:** “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” is performed by the Columbus Players, a children's theatre.

Performances are at 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 20 in the Rent Auditorium at the Mississippi University for Women's campus.

Tickets are \$5 for children under 12 and \$10 for adults.

**Antebellum tours:** Tours of decorated antebellum homes downtown are offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 19 to Dec. 21. Admission is \$7.50 per person to tour one home or \$18 per person to tour three homes. The homes to choose from are Rosedale, Waverley Mansion Plantation, Amzi Love and Temple Heights. Tickets are available from the Columbus Historic Foundation at 300 Main Street in the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center or by calling (800) 920-3533 or (662) 329-3533.

**Princess theater:** J & the T-birds along with Side Project bring their own unique sounds to the Princess Theatre in downtown Columbus from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 20. Admission is \$5 per person.

For more information, call 327-6789.

## BARGAIN LINE

### Bargain Line advertisement

*The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.*

*Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.*

*Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.*

*Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.*

**Type of advertisement (circle one):**    Home    Transportation    Miscellaneous    Yard sales    Pets

Print advertisement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Duty Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(in case we need more information)

**Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:**

Are you happy with the Silver Wings?    Yes ☐    No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper?    News ☐    Sports ☐    Photos ☐

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.



## SHORTS

### Indoor soccer registration

Indoor soccer registration for ages 3 to 4 ends Monday. Cost is \$25 for players. Participants must have a current physical on file or obtain one prior to the start of the season. A late charge of \$10 will be assessed if people register after Dec. 15. Volunteer instructors are needed. Call Ext. 2503.

### Spin class

Spin classes are at 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the fitness and sports center. The class is a one-hour self-paced training session of sprinting, resistance climbing and jogging all on a stationary bike. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

### Cosmic no-tap bowling

Cosmic no-tap bowling with a spin is Dec. 19 at the bowling center. Sign up by 6:45 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Bowling expertise not required.

### Nine-pin no-tap

A nine-pin no-tap tournament is scheduled every Friday except when cosmic no-tap is happening. It starts at 7 p.m. at the bowling center. Sign up by 6:30 p.m. The center will pay for one place for every four entries and there will be both a

men’s and women’s division. Entry is \$10 per person. For more information, call Jennie Hodges at 434-6723.

### Holiday fun run/walk

A 1.5-mile walk or a three-mile run is at 11 a.m. Dec. 19 at the fitness center. There will also be various door prizes given away. Contestants of all ages are welcome. Call Ext. 2772

### Kindergym childcare

Kindergym is offered from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the fitness and sports center. This program is for people with friends who can take turns watching each other’s children while the other is working out. This is an opportunity for mutual motivation and free childcare. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

### Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. For more information, call Ext. 2773.

### Aerobics classes

Aerobics classes ranging from beginning step, kickboxing, spinning and yoga are offered every week at the fitness and sports center.

There are 15 different classes every week. For information on class times, call Ext. 2772 or stop by the center for a schedule.

### Fitness 101

People who want to get in shape but aren’t sure how to use all the fitness and sports center’s machines can schedule a Fitness 101 class. The center shows people how to find their target heart rate and to use all of the equipment. Classes are by appointment only. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

### Thursday scrambles

The Thursday afternoon scramble at Whispering Pines Golf Course begins at

4:45 p.m. Sign up by 4 p.m. each Thursday. A computer selects the teams. Entry is \$5 per person plus green fees for nonmembers.

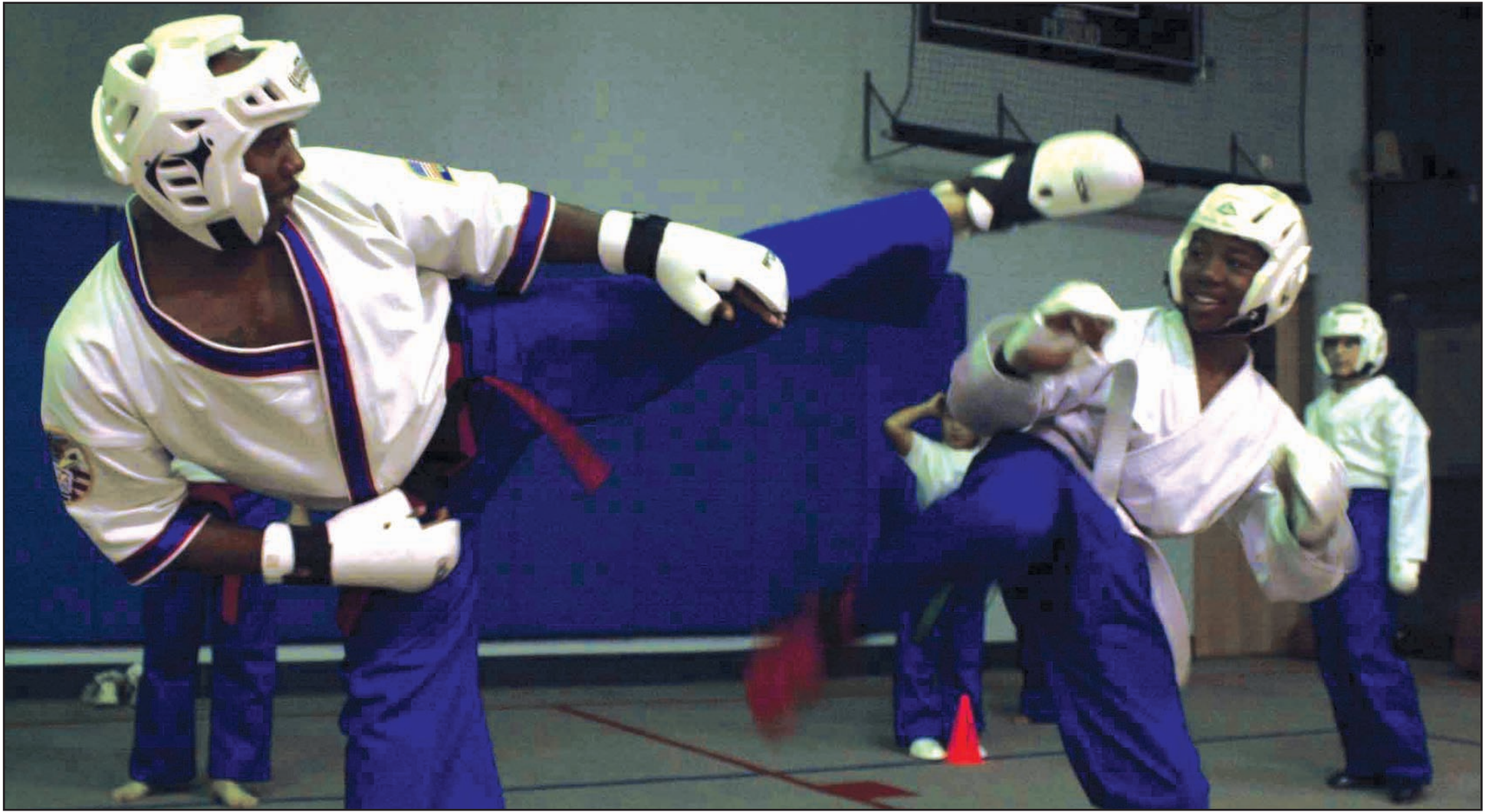

### Tumbling tots

A class for ages 18 months to 4 years is offered at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays at the youth center. The first class is free. The cost is \$40 for the first child and \$35 for the second. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

### Backwards scramble

A backwards scramble is Saturday at the Whispering Pines Golf Course. Entry is \$15 for members and \$15 plus greens fees for nonmembers. Call Ext. 7932.

Flag football standings		
The following are the final intramural standings before the playoffs. Playoffs begin at 6:15 p.m. Monday.		
Teams	Wins	Losses
14th OSS	10	2
Tweets	9	2
14th CES #1	7	2
14th CES #2	8	2
48th FTS	7	4
14th CONS	5	3
14th SFS	6	5
14th CS	5	13
14th MDG	3	9
14th MSS	0	18



Airman 1st Class Boto Best  
Dhaamin Shakur, karate instructor, spars with DeRonne Floyd, 13, during a class at the youth center. Mr. Shakur was inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame recently.

# BLAZE Team black belt kicks into hall of fame

Airman 1st Class Boto Best  
Public affairs

As a kid, he was always picked on — so he started reading karate magazines. It was something he’d always wanted to do, but his mother, a single parent, couldn’t afford it. So when he joined the Air Force at 17 years old, he started taking classes at every duty station with the goal of becoming a master of martial arts. He met that goal in 1998. But never did the DynCorp aircraft technician dream that he would be inducted into the U.S.A. International Black Belt Hall of Fame. Dhaamin Shakur, a 20-year Air Force veteran, was honored at an induction banquet Nov. 8 in Pittsburgh for his outstanding achievements, contribution, positive influence and long-standing dedication to martial arts. Some of the greatest martial arts achievers from across the United States and around the world have been inducted into the hall of fame.

Master Shakur, as his students know him, has been trained in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and the United States, and he has practiced martial arts for more than 30 years. He has also trained junior Olympians as well as Alabama, Florida and Mississippi state champions. Mr. Shakur shares his passion in a karate class at the youth center. “It’s a way of life for me. It builds self-esteem and confidence, and I want to pass on the knowledge I’ve gained to others. I love seeing an awkward, uncoordinated or even an older person come in and realize that the limitations are all in the mind.” His students range in age from five to 44 years old. And in a class of 40, five are females. Meagan Eastman, 14, started taking lessons at the youth center in September

shortly after her brother joined. “I’ve never been very sporty but I love it,” she said. “It’s challenging but fun. It’s also a very good athletic outlet. It’s good to know that if anything ever happened, I could defend myself.” Although it is taught at the youth center, the class is not just for young people. And if anyone knows the limitations are all in the mind, it’s Tim Hamilton, a 44-year-old DynCorp leadman. He began taking lessons with Mr. Shakur two and a half years ago. Mr. Hamilton is also the 2003 Alabama state champion in weapons and forms and is six months away from getting his black belt. “He is outstanding as an instructor,” Mr. Hamilton said. “He has a black belt in three different styles of martial arts,

and has combined those to form his own style.” There are several benefits to practicing karate, Mr. Shakur said. It builds the cardiovascular system, enhancing stretching, flexibility, mental awareness and self-discipline. Martial arts is 80 percent mental and 20 percent physical, he said. People shouldn’t be afraid that the class would teach their children violence, Mr. Shakur said. “In the 30 years I’ve taken karate, I’ve only had to use it twice. Once you learn all you’re capable of, you learn to walk away.” The class teaches basic self-defense, traditional martial arts, weapons training and traditional forms. Anyone five years and older is eligible to join the class. People are also free to observe and participate in a few sessions before joining. Classes are \$40 per month and are held Mondays and Thursdays 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the youth center. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

**“He has a black belt in three different styles of martial arts, and has combined those to form his own style.”**  
~ Tim Hamilton  
Karate student